

DOE Weekly Field Memo – April 15, 2009

From the Department:

- ARRA: Message to Business Managers Regarding Funds Tracking
- Updated: ARRA Food Service Equipment Grants
- Vermont Alternate Assessment Local Scoring Training
- Revised Licensing Regulations
- May 2009 NECAP Science Test – Registration Update
- Reminder: Advanced Placement (AP) Fee Reduction Grant for 2009

ARRA: Message to Business Managers Regarding Funds Tracking

Audience: Business Managers, Superintendents

The stimulus funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) will require stringent tracking, accountability, monitoring and reporting. The department will be contacting you as information becomes available on specific fiscal and reporting requirements. For now, these are the items of importance and timeliness:

- 1) ARRA funds MUST be tracked separately. New revenue and expenditure accounts must be created to accomplish this.
- 2) The ARRA federal awards have unique CFDA numbers – and therefore, will have new Revenue Codes assigned. These will be sent out soon.
- 3) DUNS numbers and CCR Registration. In order to receive ARRA funds, all subgrantees and subcontractors are required to have a DUNS (Data Universal Numbering System) number and be registered at Central Contractor Registration (CCR). Many of you have a DUNS number (or possibly multiple numbers).

To view the complete memo, visit: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/recovery_act.html#coding

Contact: Kathy Flanagan at (802) 828-0482 or kathy.flanagan@state.vt.us

Updated: ARRA Food Service Equipment Grants

Audience: Food Service Managers, Principals

Below is a link to the memo and application form for the ARRA Food Service Equipment Grants made available through USDA. Schools are eligible to apply for one piece of equipment per school and, while priority is given to schools with 50 percent or higher free and reduced price eligible students, any school enrolled in the National School Lunch Program is eligible to apply. Schools are not required to have matching funds for the ARRA equipment grant unlike that of the State equipment grants. Schools who have previously applied for the State equipment grants may also apply for the ARRA equipment grants. Please review the criteria, complete the application and thoroughly answer each question. The application deadline is June 1, 2009. For more information visit:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_nutrition/school_nutrition.html#equipment.

Contact: Laurie Colgan at (802) 828-5153 or laurie.colgan@state.vt.us

Vermont Alternate Assessment Local Scoring Training

Audience: Case Managers for students taking the alternate assessment, Special Education Directors, Principals

All Vermont Alternate Assessment Portfolio Scoring Training sessions will be presented this spring via the Learning Network of Vermont (LNV) video-conferencing system. This year, all portfolios must be scored at the local level by a trained scorer before it can be submitted to the Department of Education by June 1st. If you are unable to attend one of the sessions, you must have a trained scorer at your school or district score the portfolio.

For more information and a registration link go to:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#portfolio_scoring.

Contact: Cindy Moran at (802) 828-0646 or cindy.moran@state.vt.us

Revised Licensing Regulations

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, Educators, Special Education Directors, Curriculum Coordinators, Career and Technical Center Directors

The Educator Licensing Regulations were revised in three areas:

- The ethics code portion of these regulations speaks to the essential qualities of the competent and caring educator, including moral integrity, humane attitudes, reflective practice and a sound understanding of academic content and pedagogy. The public vests educators with trust and

responsibility for educating the children of Vermont. Fulfilling this charge requires educators to demonstrate the highest standards of professional conduct. The statement of fundamental principals, which all Vermont educators should follow, includes an enumeration of examples of unprofessional conduct which could subject an educator to licensing action;

- The technical corrections portion of these regulations clarifies rules relating to career and Technical Education endorsement; and
- The Praxis I waiver requirements put into regulation the current Standards Board policies relating to exempting from Praxis I, individuals with disabilities who meet other conditions.

View a summary of the revisions to the Licensing Regulations and the complete regulations at:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/licensing/regulations_endorsements.html#regulations.

Contact: Bob Gross at (802) 828-6544 or bob.gross@state.vt.us

May 2009 NECAP Science Test – Registration Update

Audience: High School Principals, NECAP Test Coordinators and Special Educators

Registration for high school students to take the May 2009 NECAP Science Test using the Nimble Tools on-line accommodations system has been extended to May 1, 2009. Last month all Vermont high school principals were mailed detailed information on Nimble Tools, as well as a password for access to the on-line registration. For help or additional information, please contact Jennifer Higgins at jen@nimbletools.com, or call the Nimble Tools Help Line at (617) 340-2176. For more information visit:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/necap.html#nimble.

Contact: Michael Hock at (802) 828-3115 or michael.hock@state.vt.us

Reminder: Advanced Placement (AP) Fee Reduction Grant for 2009

Principals, Superintendents, Curriculum Coordinators

Once again, Vermont has been awarded an AP Fee Reduction Grant. The purpose of this grant is to pay all Advanced Placement fees on behalf of eligible low-income students who are enrolled in an Advanced Placement course, and plan to take an Advanced Placement exam. For information on qualifications for eligibility, fees covered and changes for the 2009 year, visit:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_curriculum/enrichment.html#AP_grant.

Contact: Noel Bryant at (802) 828-0215 or noel.bryant@state.vt.us

Weekly Field Memo is Online!

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html. Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at:

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.